

2 July 1981
MSK-1012

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report--Seoul Bureau--June 1981

I. GENERAL

Ambassador William Gleysteen departed on 10 June after almost three years in Korea, and on 27 June President Reagan announced the nomination of Richard Walker, professor of international relations at the University of South Carolina, to be the new ambassador. DCM John Monjo is presently acting as Chargé and will continue in that role until Professor Walker's arrival, which is not expected until the end of July or early August.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/Monitorial

1. Employment of the Bureau's TCN Russian monitor [] was terminated on 27 June, necessitating various shifts in Russian coverage. All coverage of Mongolia's MONTSAME news agency was permanently shifted back to Okinawa, which had already picked up coverage on a temporary basis on 17 June to cover for our monitor's sick leave. Okinawa also assumed responsibility for recording Vladivostok newscasts for mailing to the BBC for processing, but the need for coverage of other very marginal Russian regionals audible only in Seoul remains under discussion. Krasnoyarsk and Ulan-Ude were lost during the month due to the usual summer deterioration in reception, leaving only Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy and Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk for possible recording by Seoul Bureau and mailing to the BBC. In almost 9 months of coverage, the latter two stations produced 14 and 29 items, respectively, but only 3 and 8, respectively, were published by the BBC.
2. The Bureau's DPRK TV videotapes continue to receive a strong response from Washington consumers. Of the 50 VSL's filed this year through 1 June, 38 elicited requests from consumers. Some 61 of the 84 VSL's filed since the Bureau resumed TV coverage last October have resulted in consumer requests to view the videotapes.

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B. Lateral Services

At the request of a Hqs consumer, the Bureau began recording 2-3 hours a week of various Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean programs for forwarding to Washington. The recordings, to support language training, will continue for 9-12 months.

III. ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

1. TCN Russian monitor [] employment was terminated STAT effective 27 June. She plans to return to Australia on 14 July.
2. Teletypist [] entered on duty on 29 June to STAT replace the former head of the Bureau's Teletype Unit, who resigned on 30 May to emigrate to the United States.

IV. VISITS

1. Maj. Greg Anders, Combined Forces Command Political/Economic Analyst, visited the Bureau on 2 June to view DPRK videotapes.
2. Editor [] visited the Bureau on 9 June while STAT in Seoul on personal leave prior to arrival in Okinawa on PCS.
3. FBIS Budget and Finance Officer [] visited STAT the Bureau on TDY 12-14 June for discussions on financial matters.

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Chief, Seoul Bureau, FBIS

Attachments

Production Reports

cc: Chief, []
Chief, Okinawa Bureau

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